Setting up of a Financial Institution for Food Processing Industries

3620. SHRI VIREN J. SHAH: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether out of the total 180 deep sea fishing vessels available at present, only 85 are fit for operation, as reported in the 'Observer', New Delhi, of the 2nd February, 1995;

(b) if so, since when such a large number of vessels are out of operation and why steps have not been taken to get these vessels repaired and make them operational;

(c) whether there is a proposal for setting up a separate financial Institution to meet working capital requirements of deep-sea fishing and other Food Processing Industries, including financial support for exports of agro-products;

(d) if so, what is the latest position in this regard; and

(e) by when this Financial Institution is expected to be set up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARUN GOGOI): (a) and (b) As per the information available, 102 deep-sea fishing vessels have been in operation. The repairs, if any, of these vessels are carried out by the owner companies. Most of the vessels which are not operating are either not sea worthy or the owner company finds it financially unviable to operate the same.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) and (e) Do not arise.

Setting up of export-oriented food processing units

3621. SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to refer to answer to Unstarred Question 444, given in the Rajya Sabha on the 15th March, 1995 and state:

(a) the details of proposals received and cleared by Government in 1993-94 and 1994-95 for setting up of 100 per cent export oriented units; and

(b) the industries covered by the proposal and the progress made in those proposals?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARUN GOGOI): (a) and (b) 148 proposals during 1993-94 and 91 proposals during 1994-95 of processed foods, integrated aquaculture and deep sea fishng have been approved. The industries covered by these proposals are mainly fruits and vegetables products, marine products, processed cereals, mushrooms, meat and poultry products, etc. The proposals are likely to take normally 2 to 3 years for implementation.

Licences to manufacture beer

3622. SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to refer to answer to Unstarred Question 1326 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 22nd March, 1995 and state:

(a) whether Government are considering proposals for giving more licences to manufacture beer in the country;

(b) whether such proposals contain foreign participation and investment; if so, the details of such proposals including the names of parties involved; and

(c) whether Government would still consider more proposals from NRIs to set up beer manufacturing units in the country; if so, the places where such units would be allowed to be located?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARUN GOGOI): (a) and (b) Fresh applications from Resident Indians to set up beer units for DFA sales are not being entertained by the Government since 1-4-1991. However,